

Hoi Polloi

Just who are the working class? The middle class work too, so I would suggest we're split between those who work, and those who "manage". And the further you go up the greasy pole of management, the further removed you become from those who do the work: the people who *actually create the wealth*.

The source of all wealth is the planet we live on, and those resources are transformed into wealth by human labour. The people who *claim* to be "wealth creators" have very little regard for the planet or the people who *actually* create it.

Hoi Polloi – that's us: "the many" – outnumber the 0.1%, and the logic of democracy dictates we should be in control of our own destiny, but the establishment have been fighting a rearguard action ever since universal suffrage was established in 1928 (when *all* women could finally vote).



Was the PM talking about our collective debt to the banks?

Of course not. Churchill was talking about the men dying to prevent the Nazi invasion of this country, not the banksters who worked out how to enslave their great grandchildren three generations later.

Could they have even *imagined* a debt of One and a Half Trillion Pounds? If you put a million quid on a bus, you'd need one and a half million buses to carry it. Do we even have that many buses?

What would they say, The Few, if they knew that bright, sunny future they were promised had come to this: a nation enslaved not to Fascism, but unfettered free market Capitalism? Weren't they fighting for Democracy?

And remember those Reds under the bed? Turns out it was the Blues at the bank: we spend as much on interest each year as we spend on defence.

£1.6 Trillion. That's our debt: 87.4% of GDP. Anything above 40% is considered dodgy. More than double that? Utter madness.

The rich got richer, and it's time you got the picture. For a long time we suspected the Great and the Good were not that great and not much good, but we never really *knew*, did we?

Well, now we do:

Hillsborough, Bloody Sunday, WMD's that didn't exist, financial catastrophe, Libor manipulation, HSBC's industrial scale tax evasion, HMRC's sweetheart deals with industrial scale tax evaders, Jimmy Saville and the BBC (which looked the other way), tabloid journalists hacking the phone of Milly Dowler (a murder victim), the assassination of Charles de Menezes and the IPCC cover-up, the death of Ian Tomlinson from an assault by a policeman, the surveillance by the same police force of Stephen Lawrence's family. MP's expenses...

Everywhere we look, trust has been abandoned. A month doesn't go by without new revelations of dark goings on.

Parliament is the ultimate arena in democratic society, the price of admission set at First Prize in a local popularity contest. Once the winners take their seats, Members may vote as

they wish. They may follow their conscience... or not. Those with ambition will toe the Party line, the best trodden route to a ministerial position when politics finally starts to pay. Handsomely.

So lets stop expecting our elected leaders to look out for us, shall we? They couldn't care less what we think or feel at any time except election time. Did a million people in London stop the Iraq War? Did Brian Haw? He died protesting, that bloke.

If we want Parliament to act in our best interests, we're going to have to do it ourselves. And the mechanism for peaceful revolution has been staring us in the face for generations: Democracy. It wasn't handed to us on a plate: it's a right our ancestors fought hundreds of years to get. And it's not God-given either: it has only existed for about three hundred of the last five thousand years. The modern version has been with us for less than a century.

So, we don't have to take up arms. No one will be killed. There will be no executions. All we have to do is line up in an orderly fashion, and vote. If you carry on voting the way you have – or not voting at all – the status quo will remain more or less as is: the rich will continue to exploit the poor, rich countries will carry on treating war as an offshore business, politicians will carry on representing their own best interests, and more and more life on our precious planet will suffer.

But there is hope: thirty to forty percent of the electorate in this country don't vote. If we tap half that vote, we're players. If we tap them all, we're the Government.

But if you don't have the bottle to do it for yourself, think of your kids. Think of their kids. If we carry on the same trajectory we're on, they're likely to find themselves back in the time of the Brontes. All very well if they're rich, but not if they're not. It's going to get bad enough for us: it'll be unbearable for them.

And if you think it's a pain in the arse to get *off* your arse and wander down to cast your vote, think what a drag it's going to be for me. Think Daniel in a snake pit: the more I'm on the money, the more opprobrium I'll attract, and it ain't gonna be pretty.

So remember what Ghandi said:

First they ignore you.
Then they laugh at you.
Then they fight you.
Then you win.

Keep calm and vote for the revolution.

This is our war.



Who are Hoi Polloi?

You and I, that's who: [Hoi Polloi](#) is Greek for "The Many" who, in 508 BC, spilled onto the streets of Athens and staged a spontaneous, leaderless revolt against the tyrant Isagorus and his old friend, the Spartan King, Cleomenes. Cleomenes and his army had backed Isagorus' claim to Athenian leadership, and when Cleomenes attempted to dismantle the existing Council of 400 and replace it with 300 of Isagoras' supporters, the people of Athens had had enough: they gave chase and Isagorus and his Spartan friends found themselves barricaded on top of the Acropolis.

Given the very suddenness of the revolt, they'd had no time to stock up on food or water and were forced into a humiliating surrender on the morning of the third day. Cleomenes and his army were banished from Athens forever, as was Isagorus and some of his lucky supporters. The unlucky ones were executed.

Hundreds of aristocratic families exiled by Isagoras were recalled to Athens, and one of them – Isagoras' arch rival, Cleisthenes – was asked to design a new form of government.

Re-installing the oligarchy or establishing himself as tyrant was out of the question. Instead, Cleisthenes established democracy based on reforms drawn up three generations earlier by the poet Solon. From the words Demos (meaning the citizen body), and Kratos (meaning power), Democracy rapidly spread throughout the Greek world, but lasted only two centuries before the Romans put an end to it. Democracy would not be seen again for two thousand years. Senate shmenate.

The ancient model differs somewhat to modern democracy, since ours is Representative and there's was Participatory. Greek citizens didn't vote for MP's to debate and decide upon the issues of the day on their behalf: they did it themselves. In person. Although any citizen could speak at the Assembly, it tended to be the more erudite and educated citizens who dared. The rest were heard only when voting by acclamation.

Greek democracy was strictly for adult men of Greek birth. Women were not permitted to vote, nor were slaves, upon whom the whole edifice of democracy depended: they worked while there masters played politics.

The question is: who are the slaves today? Well, again: that'd be you and me. Wage slaves. Not as bad as being flogged or bought and sold, I grant you, but slavery nonetheless.

We can do better than this.

I started this party because I want to wrestle democracy back from the political class who claim to represent us. They don't, and rarely do. They represent the rich and powerful, and always have.

Of the three major political parties, two of them date back to 1678. The Tories changed their name to the Conservative Party in 1834, and the Whigs became Liberals in 1868, then Liberal Democrats in 1988. Believe it or not, the Liberals were once as powerful as the Tories, and actually dominated politics for 45 years from 1715 to 1760.

But lets be clear on this: the Liberals aren't so much liberal as slightly less conservative than the Conservatives. "Liberal" is a relative term, as demonstrated by the Liberal Democrats current alliance with the Conservative Party.

But it was labour that demanded and got democracy. That's right: labour. Workers. And it was the workers who established the Labour Party, which ultimately let them down.

Which brings me to here and now.

We don't have leadership anymore. We have management. Leaders want what's best for their people; Managers simply exploit them. They have a very narrow area of interest – namely themselves – which precludes doing what's best for all. Leaders lead their people to a brighter future; managers lead them up the garden path.

When the Tories talk about doing what's right for Britain and getting this country working again, they mean working for them, and people like them. If they're all right, everything's peachy keen as far as they're concerned. And that's how they've played it for centuries.

The Labour Party grew out of the union movement, but once they achieved enough parliamentary seats to govern, their leadership became decidedly unsure about the socialist

principals that got them there. Hence the last Labour Prime Minister referring to one of the faithful as a bigot (once she was out of earshot).

And the Liberal Democrats? You wonder why they even bother coming up with policy. I suppose they do it, safe in the knowledge they'll never win an election. But when they do, they do so many U-turns everyone gets dizzy.

This country has only had universal suffrage since 1928. Yes, women got the vote in 1918, but only if they were over thirty and owned property. It wasn't till 1928 that working class women were able to vote on the same terms as men. And what a mess: despite the Tories fighting tooth and nail to prevent democracy, they continue to be a dominant force. Had the Labour cabinet been doing what's right for the country, rather than jockeying for position in preparation for Gordon Brown's inevitable defeat, this country might be in a better position than it is now.

I say "might" because you just can't tell with the Labour Party anymore.

We're living in a democratic dictatorship, and it's high time we got back to the principals that finally saw hundreds of years of bloody struggle force the establishment to accept democracy. I formed this party because I don't think Parliament speaks for the people now, any more than it did a hundred years ago. Parliament speaks for itself.

It's about time we had our say.

The History of Democracy

Democracy may have got its start in Athens over two thousand years ago, but it lasted less than two hundred.



Before Democracy

If we're all created equal, why's the Queen in charge? And since we're mammals, why do we behave like insects?

The Greeks

After thousands of years of "civilisation", the Greeks show us how it's really done.



Class War

Peasants weren't always poor. With the help of Parliament, 5,000 Enclosure Acts over 500 years robbed them of their ancestral lands: it was the crime of the millennium.

The Levellers

The first case of British democracy took place in the New Model Army, after the defeat of Charles I. It didn't last.





The Chartists

After the revolutions in America and France, all the Chartists wanted was fair elections and the vote for all.

The Suffragettes

These brave women were the only people systematically tortured by the state in their fight for the right to party.



The Labour Party

Bourgeois Socialists in the Aristocratic Embrace.

Welcome to Your Nightmare

The new millennium delivers the greatest robbery of all time, backed with a AAA rating. You can't beat that!

